



**Seattle
Public
Utilities**

● Overview

Taylor Creek originates in unincorporated King County and passes through a natural area known as Dead Horse Canyon within Lakeridge Park. It then passes through residential yards and a culvert under Rainier Avenue South before discharging into Lake Washington. The culvert under Rainier, along with other barriers in the creek, prevents fish passage to good quality habitat in Dead Horse Canyon.

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) purchased property at the lower reaches of Taylor Creek to increase the quality and quantity of shoreline habitat, particularly for threatened juvenile Chinook salmon. The restored natural area will also create a new opportunity for public access to Lake Washington.

The project is currently in the design phase. Regulatory agencies, funding partners and the community have all provided insight into the new natural area. Construction of the project is anticipated as early as 2021.

Taylor Creek Culvert Replacement Project



The mouth of Taylor Creek at Lake Washington. Sediment from Deadhorse Canyon has collected here as a result of past landslides.

● Project goals and benefits

The Taylor Creek Culvert Replacement project will:

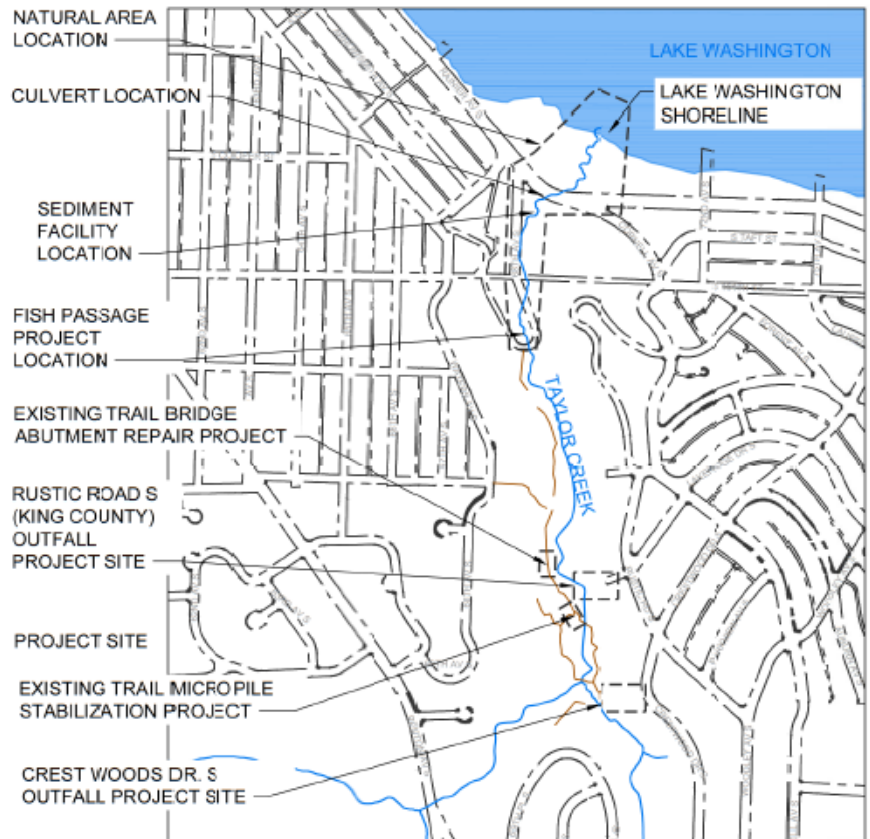
- Improve the stream channel and surrounding habitat
- Improve fish passage in the creek
- Replace a culvert under Rainier Avenue South
- Address storm-related flooding to the extent feasible
- Provide public access to a new natural area and Lake Washington north of Rainier Avenue South
- Construct corridor and pedestrian safety improvements on Rainier Avenue South in coordination with the Seattle Department of Transportation
- Improve two outfalls in Deadhorse Canyon to help prevent landslides
- Improve stability of the pedestrian trail in Deadhorse Canyon and protect the existing sewer line underneath it

Questions? Contact:

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● Project background

In order to make Taylor Creek a successful project, SPU is engaging with several other City departments. In partnership with Seattle Parks and Recreation, SPU collaborated with the community to evaluate future public access at the new natural area. It was decided that once the new natural area is completed, it will become an extension of Lakeridge Park. The Seattle Department of Transportation is designing corridor and safety improvements on Rainier Avenue South. SPU has also been working hand-in-hand with the Seattle Police Department (SPD) throughout the design process to make the new natural as safe as possible. SPU is adhering to the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles with guidance from SPD. These principles prioritize clear sightlines throughout the natural area, limiting formal structures that encourage loitering/vandalism and other safety guidelines. A full [safety analysis](#) of the Taylor Creek site is available on the project website.



● Major project elements

North of Rainier Avenue South, the new natural area will have a pedestrian path, two creek overlooks, and a gravelly beach at the shoreline of Lake Washington. On the south side of the roadway, SPU will install a sedimentation facility. The facility will look like a wide spot in a natural creek and will settle out cobbles and gravels before they can build up downstream.

Up in Deadhorse Canyon, SPU will stabilize the pedestrian trails and the canyon walls.

Brooklyn artist [Olalekan Jeyfious](#), commissioned by the Office of Arts & Culture, is creating a series of wayfinding artwork to connect the different elements of the project together.

● Funding partners



WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Salmon Recovery
Funding Board

